



Technical information: (202) 691-6567
<http://www.bls.gov/cew/>

USDL 05-623

Media contact: 691-5902

For release: 10:00 A.M. EDT
Thursday, April 14, 2005

COUNTY EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES: THIRD QUARTER 2004

In September 2004, Rutherford County, Tenn., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment among the largest counties in the U.S., according to preliminary data released today by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. Rutherford County experienced an over-the-year employment gain of 9.2 percent, compared with national job growth of 1.3 percent. St. Joseph County, Ind., had the largest over-the-year gain in average weekly wages in the third quarter of 2004, with an increase of 10.4 percent. The U.S. average weekly wage increased by 4.0 percent over the same time span.

Of the 317 largest counties in the United States, as measured by 2003 employment, 139 had over-the-year percentage growth in employment above the national average in September 2004, and 162 experienced changes below the national average. (See chart 1.) Average weekly wages grew faster than the national average in 137 of the largest U.S. counties, while the percent change in average weekly wages was below the national average in 165 counties. (See chart 2.)

The employment and average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from reports submitted by every employer subject to unemployment insurance (UI) laws. The 8.4 million employer reports cover 130.2 million full- and part-time workers. The attached tables and charts contain data for the nation and for the 317 U.S. counties with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2003. In addition, data for San Juan, Puerto Rico, are provided, but not used in calculating U.S. averages, or in the analysis in the text. (See Technical Note.) September 2004 employment and 2004 third-quarter average weekly wages for all states are provided in table 4 of this release. Data for all states, metropolitan statistical areas, counties, and the nation through the second quarter of 2004 are available on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/>. Preliminary data for the third quarter of 2004 and revised data for the first and second quarters of 2004 will be available in April on the BLS Web site.

Large County Employment

In September 2004, national employment, as measured by the QCEW program, was 130.2 million, up 1.3 percent from September 2003. The 317 U.S. counties with 75,000 or more employees accounted for 70.2 percent of total U.S. covered employment and 76.1 percent of total covered wages. These 317 counties had a net job gain of 1,073,000 over the year, accounting for 63.8 percent of the U.S. employment increase. Employment increased in 242 of the large counties from September 2003 to September 2004. Rutherford County, Tenn., had the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment (9.2 percent). Clark County, Nev., had the next largest increase, 7.4 percent, followed by the counties of Riverside, Calif. (7.2 percent), Elkhart, Ind. (6.8 percent), and Montgomery, Texas (6.6 percent). (See table 1.)

Table A. Top 10 counties ranked by September 2004 employment, September 2003-04 employment change, and September 2003-04 percent change in employment

Employment in large counties					
September 2004 employment (thousands)		Net change in employment, September 2003-04 (thousands)		Percent change in employment, September 2003-04	
U.S.	130,248.9	U.S.	1,681.6	U.S.	1.3
Los Angeles, Calif.	4,019.6	Maricopa, Ariz.	58.6	Rutherford, Tenn.	9.2
Cook, Ill.	2,511.7	Clark, Nev.	56.5	Clark, Nev.	7.4
New York, N.Y.	2,201.7	Orange, Calif.	44.1	Riverside, Calif.	7.2
Harris, Texas	1,838.1	Riverside, Calif.	38.2	Elkhart, Ind.	6.8
Maricopa, Ariz.	1,633.3	Los Angeles, Calif.	29.4	Montgomery, Texas	6.6
Orange, Calif.	1,468.4	Fairfax, Va.	24.9	Lee, Fla.	6.1
Dallas, Texas	1,438.0	Miami-Dade, Fla.	20.0	Prince William, Va.	5.8
San Diego, Calif.	1,268.0	Orange, Fla.	19.8	Utah, Utah	5.3
King, Wash.	1,104.3	San Bernardino, Calif.	19.3	Loudoun, Va.	5.3
Miami-Dade, Fla.	979.5	Hillsborough, Fla.	18.8	Sarasota, Fla.	5.1

Employment declined in 54 counties from September 2003 to September 2004. The largest percentage decline in employment was in Trumbull County, Ohio (-3.7 percent), followed by the counties of Tulare, Calif. (-2.7 percent), Ingham, Mich. (-2.6 percent), Richmond, Ga. (-2.2 percent), and Okaloosa, Fla. (-2.0 percent).

The largest gains in employment from September 2003 to September 2004 were recorded in the counties of Maricopa, Ariz. (58,600), Clark, Nev. (56,500), Orange, Calif. (44,100), Riverside, Calif. (38,200) and Los Angeles, Calif. (29,400). (See table A.)

The largest absolute declines in employment occurred in Wayne County, Mich. (-9,700), followed by the counties of Philadelphia, Pa. (-8,500), Cook, Ill. (-7,100), Baltimore City, Md. (-6,800), and Milwaukee, Wis. (-6,500).

Large County Average Weekly Wages

The national average weekly wage in the third quarter of 2004 was \$733. Average weekly wages were higher than the national average in 118 of the largest 317 U.S. counties. New York County, N.Y., held the top position among the highest-paid large counties with an average weekly wage of \$1,327. Santa Clara County, Calif., was second with an average weekly wage of \$1,308, followed by Washington, D.C. (\$1,207), Arlington, Va. (\$1,196), and Suffolk, Mass. (\$1,178). (See table B.)

There were 198 counties with an average weekly wage below the national average in the third quarter of 2004. The lowest average weekly wages were reported in Cameron County, Texas (\$468), followed by the counties of Hidalgo, Texas (\$475), Horry, S.C. (\$487), Webb, Texas (\$496), and Yakima, Wash. (\$500). (See table 1.)

Over the year, the national average weekly wage rose by 4.0 percent. Among the largest counties, St. Joseph, Ind., led the nation in growth in average weekly wages, with an increase of 10.4 percent from the

Table B. Top 10 counties ranked by third quarter 2004 average weekly wages, third quarter 2003-04 change in average weekly wages, and third quarter 2003-04 percent change in average weekly wages

Average weekly wage in large counties					
Average weekly wage, third quarter 2004		Change in average weekly wage, third quarter 2003-04		Percent change in average weekly wage, third quarter 2003-04	
U.S.	\$733	U.S.	\$28	U.S.	4.0
New York, N.Y.	\$1,327	Suffolk, Mass.	\$98	St. Joseph, Ind.	10.4
Santa Clara, Calif.	1,308	New York, N.Y.	87	Suffolk, Mass.	9.1
Washington, D.C.	1,207	Arlington, Va.	86	Loudoun, Va.	8.4
Arlington, Va.	1,196	Washington, D.C.	85	Rockingham, N.H.	8.1
Suffolk, Mass.	1,178	Loudoun, Va.	75	Arlington, Va.	7.7
San Mateo, Calif.	1,132	Fairfield, Conn.	66	Washington, D.C.	7.6
Fairfield, Conn.	1,132	St. Joseph, Ind.	64	Catawba, N.C.	7.3
San Francisco, Calif.	1,107	Hartford, Conn.	56	Forsyth, N.C.	7.3
Somerset, N.J.	1,093	Montgomery, Md.	56	Lexington, S.C.	7.3
Fairfax, Va.	1,068	Rockingham, N.H.	55	Henrico, Va.	7.3

third quarter of 2003. Suffolk, Mass., was second with 9.1 percent growth, followed by the counties of Loudoun, Va. (8.4 percent), Rockingham, N.H. (8.1 percent), and Arlington, Va. (7.7 percent).

Seven counties experienced over-the-year declines in average weekly wages. Kalamazoo County, Mich., had the largest decrease, -7.7 percent, followed by the counties of Arapahoe, Colo. (-7.3 percent), Somerset, N.J. (-6.9 percent), King, Wash. (-2.4 percent), and Santa Cruz, Calif. (-1.3 percent).

Ten Largest U.S. Counties

Of the 10 largest U.S. counties (based on 2003 employment levels), 9 reported increases in employment, while 1 showed a decline from September 2003 to September 2004. Maricopa County, Ariz., experienced the fastest growth in employment among the largest counties, with a 3.7 percent increase. Within Maricopa County, employment rose in every industry group except information. The largest gains were in construction (9.4 percent) and professional and business services (6.2 percent). (See table 2.) Orange County, Calif., had the next largest increase in employment, 3.1 percent, followed by Miami-Dade, Fla. (2.1 percent). The only decrease in employment for the 10 largest counties was in Cook County, Ill., with a 0.3 percent decline. The next lowest change in employment was recorded in Los Angeles County, Calif. (+0.7 percent), followed by the counties of New York, N.Y., Dallas, Texas, and Harris, Texas (+0.8 percent each).

Eight of the 10 largest U.S. counties saw over-the-year increases in average weekly wages. New York County, N.Y., had the fastest growth in wages among the top 10 counties, 7.0 percent. Within New York County, wages increased the most in natural resources and mining (15.2 percent) and financial activities (14.2 percent). San Diego County, Calif., was second in wage growth, increasing by 5.4 percent, followed by Los Angeles County, Calif., with a gain of 4.9 percent. The smallest wage gains among the 10 largest counties occurred in Dallas County, Texas (3.0 percent) and Orange County, Calif. (3.3 percent). King County, Wash., experienced the only decline in average weekly wages among the largest 10 counties (-2.4 percent). The information sector in King County posted the largest drop in wages, with a decline of 28.3 percent over

the year. A change in wage coverage for business establishments in Washington State contributed significantly to these wage declines. See the Coverage section of the Technical Note for more information.

Largest County by State

Table 3 shows September 2004 employment and the 2004 third-quarter average weekly wage in the largest county in each state. (This table includes two counties—Yellowstone, Mont., and Laramie, Wyo.—that have employment levels below 75,000). The employment levels in these counties in September 2004 ranged from approximately 4 million in Los Angeles County, Calif., to 39,800 in Laramie County, Wyo. The highest average weekly wage of these counties was in New York, N.Y. (\$1,327), while the lowest average weekly wage was in Yellowstone County, Mont. (\$572).

Introduction of the Location Quotient Calculator

In March 2005, the Bureau of Labor Statistics introduced a new tool on its Web site for analyzing data from the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages program. The Location Quotient Calculator helps data users compare industry employment levels in a defined area to that of a larger area or base. For example, location quotients can be used to compare state employment by industry to that of the nation; or employment in a city, county, metropolitan statistical area, or other defined geographic subarea to that in the state. A link to the Location Quotient Calculator and other relevant information can be found at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewlq.htm>.

Technical Note

These data are the product of a federal-state cooperative program, the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). The summaries are a result of the administration of state unemployment insurance programs that require most employers to pay quarterly taxes based on the employment and wages of workers covered by UI. Data for 2004 are preliminary and subject to revision.

For purposes of this release, large counties are defined as having employment levels of 75,000 or greater. Each year, these large counties are selected on the basis of the preliminary annual average of employment for the previous year. The 318

counties discussed in this release were derived using 2003 preliminary annual averages of employment. These counties will be included in all 2004 quarterly releases. The counties in table 2 are selected and sorted each year based on the annual average employment from the preceding year.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt of UI data over time and ongoing review and editing. The individual states determine their data release timetables.

Differences between QCEW, BED, and CES employment measures

The Bureau publishes three different establishment-based employment measures for any given quarter. Each of these

Summary of Major Differences between QCEW, BED, and CES Employment Measures

	QCEW	BED	CES
Source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Count of UI administrative records submitted by 8.4 million establishments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Count of longitudinally-linked UI administrative records submitted by 6.5 million private-sector employers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sample survey: 400,000 establishments
Coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI and UCFE coverage, including all employers subject to state and federal UI laws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI coverage, excluding government, private households, and establishments with zero employment 	Nonfarm wage and salary jobs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI coverage, excluding agriculture, private households, and self-employed workers Other employment, including railroads, religious organizations, and other non-UI-covered jobs
Publication frequency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly - 7 months after the end of each quarter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly - 8 months after the end of each quarter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monthly - Usually first Friday of following month
Use of UI file	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Directly summarizes and publishes each new quarter of UI data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links each new UI quarter to longitudinal database and directly summarizes gross job gains and losses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uses UI file as a sampling frame and annually realigns (benchmarks) sample estimates to first quarter UI levels
Principal products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides a quarterly and annual universe count of establishments, employment, and wages at the county, MSA, state, and national levels by detailed industry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides quarterly employer dynamics data on establishment openings, closings, expansions, and contractions at the national level Future expansions will include data at the county, MSA, and state level and by size of establishment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides current monthly estimates of employment, hours, and earnings at the MSA, state, and national level by industry
Principal uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major uses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detailed locality data Periodic universe counts for benchmarking sample survey estimates Sample frame for BLS establishment surveys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major uses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business cycle analysis Analysis of employer dynamics underlying economic expansions and contractions Future: Employment expansion and contraction by size of establishment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Major uses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal national economic indicator Official time series for employment change measures Input into other major economic indicators
Program Web sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.bls.gov/cew/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.bls.gov/bdm/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> www.bls.gov/ces/

measures—QCEW, Business Employment Dynamics (BED), and Current Employment Statistics (CES)—makes use of the quarterly UI employment reports in producing data; however, each measure has a somewhat different universe coverage, estimation procedure, and publication product.

Differences in coverage and estimation methods can result in somewhat different measures of over-the-quarter employment change. It is important to understand program differences and the intended uses of the program products. (See table on the previous page.) Additional information on each program can be obtained from the program Web sites shown in the table on the previous page.

Coverage

Employment and wage data for workers covered by state UI laws and for federal civilian workers covered by the Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) program are compiled from quarterly contribution reports submitted to the SWAs by employers. In addition to the quarterly contribution reports, employers who operate multiple establishments within a state complete a questionnaire, called the “Multiple Worksite Report,” which provides detailed information on the location and industry of each of their establishments. The employment and wage data included in this release are derived from microdata summaries of more than 8 million employer reports of employment and wages submitted by states to the BLS. These reports are based on place of employment rather than place of residence.

UI and UCFE coverage is broad and basically comparable from state to state. In 2003, UI and UCFE programs covered workers in 127.8 million jobs. The estimated 122.9 million workers in these jobs (after adjustment for multiple jobholders) represented 96.6 percent of civilian wage and salary employment. Covered workers received \$4.826 trillion in pay, representing 94.6 percent of the wage and salary component of personal income and 43.9 percent of the gross domestic product.

Major exclusions from UI coverage include self-employed workers, most agricultural workers on small farms, all members of the Armed Forces, elected officials in most states, most employees of railroads, some domestic workers, most student workers at schools, and employees of certain small nonprofit organizations.

State and federal UI laws change periodically. These changes may have an impact on the employment and wages reported by employers covered under the UI program. Coverage changes may affect the over-the-year comparisons presented in this news release. Effective January 1, 2004, the Washington Employment Security Department no longer includes as covered wages an employee’s income attributable to the transfer of shares of stock to the employee. This change in wage coverage pertains to all establishments in Washington State and contributes significantly to over-the-year changes in wages in the state in 2004.

Concepts and methodology

Monthly employment is based on the number of workers who worked during or received pay for the pay period including the 12th of the month. With few exceptions, all employees of covered firms are reported, including production and sales workers, corporation officials, executives, supervisory personnel, and clerical workers. Workers on paid vacations and part-time workers also are included.

Average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average of the three monthly employment levels (all employees, as described above) and dividing the result by 13, for the 13 weeks in the quarter. These calculations are made using unrounded employment and wage values. The average wage values that can be calculated using rounded data from the BLS database may differ from the averages reported. Included in the quarterly wage data are non-wage cash payments such as bonuses, the cash value of meals and lodging when supplied, tips and other gratuities, and, in some states, employer contributions to certain deferred compensation plans such as 401(k) plans and stock options.

Average weekly wages are affected by the ratio of full-time to part-time workers as well as the number of individuals in high-paying and low-paying occupations and the incidence of pay periods within a quarter. When comparing average weekly wage levels between industries and/or states, these factors should be taken into consideration.

Federal government pay levels are subject to periodic, sometimes large, fluctuations due to a calendar effect that consists of some quarters having more pay periods than others. Most federal employees are paid on a biweekly pay schedule. As a result of this schedule, in some quarters, federal wages contain payments for six pay periods, while in other quarters their wages include payments for seven pay periods. Over-the-year comparisons of average weekly wages may reflect this calendar effect. Higher growth in average weekly wages may be attributed, in part, to a comparison of quarterly wages for the current year, which include seven pay periods, with year-ago wages that reflect only six pay periods. An opposite effect will occur when wages in the current period, which contain six pay periods, are compared with year-ago wages that include seven pay periods. The effect on over-the-year pay comparisons can be pronounced in federal government due to the uniform nature of federal payroll processing. This pattern may exist in private sector pay, however, because there are more pay period types (weekly, biweekly, semimonthly, monthly) it is less pronounced. The effect is most visible in counties with large concentrations of federal employment.

In order to ensure the highest possible quality of data, states verify with employers and update, if necessary, the industry, location, and ownership classification of all establishments on a 3-year cycle. Changes in establishment classification codes resulting from this process are introduced with the data reported for the first quarter of the year. Changes resulting from improved employer reporting also are introduced in the first quarter.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records and reflect the number of establishments that exist in a county or industry at a point in time. Establishments can move in or out of a county or industry for a number of reasons—some reflecting economic events, others reflecting administrative changes. For example, economic change would come from a firm relocating into the county; administrative change would come from a company correcting its county designation.

The over-the-year changes of employment and wages presented in this release have been adjusted to account for most of the administrative corrections made to the underlying establishment reports. This is done by modifying the prior-year levels used to calculate the over-the-year changes. Percent changes are calculated using an adjusted version of the final 2003 quarterly data as the base data. The adjusted prior-year levels used to calculate the over-the-year percent change in employment and wages are not published. These adjusted prior-year levels do not match the unadjusted data maintained on the BLS Web site. Over-the-year change calculations based on data from the Web site, or from data published in prior BLS news releases, may differ substantially from the over-the-year changes presented in this news release.

The adjusted data used to calculate the over-the-year change measures presented in this release account for most of the administrative changes—those occurring when employers update the industry, location, and ownership information of their establishments. The most common adjustments for administrative change are the result of updated information about the county location of individual establishments.

The adjusted data do not account for administrative changes caused by (1) multi-unit employers who start reporting for each individual establishment rather than as a single entity and (2) the classification of establishments previously reported in the unknown county or unknown industry categories.

The adjusted data used to calculate the over-the-year change measures presented in any County Employment and Wages news release are valid for comparisons between the starting and

ending points (a 12-month period) used in that particular release. Comparisons may not be valid for any time period other than the one featured in a release even if the changes were calculated using adjusted data.

County definitions are assigned according to Federal Information Processing Standards Publications (FIPS PUBS) as issued by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, after approval by the Secretary of Commerce pursuant to Section 5131 of the Information Technology Management Reform Act of 1996 and the Computer Security Act of 1987, Public Law 104-106. Areas shown as counties include those designated as independent cities in some jurisdictions and, in Alaska, those designated as census areas where counties have not been created. County data also are presented for the New England states for comparative purposes even though townships are the more common designation used in New England (and New Jersey). The regions referred to in this release are defined as census regions.

Additional statistics and other information

An annual bulletin, *Employment and Wages*, features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. *Employment and Wages Annual Averages, 2003* is available for sale from the BLS Publications Sales Center, P.O. Box 2145, Chicago, Illinois 60690, telephone 312-353-1880. The 2003 bulletin will be available in April 2005 in a portable document format (PDF) on the BLS Web site at <http://www.bls.gov/cew/cewbultn03.htm>.

News releases on quarterly measures of gross job flows also are available upon request from the Division of Administrative Statistics and Labor Turnover (Business Employment Dynamics), telephone 202-691-6467; (<http://www.bls.gov/bdm/>); (e-mail: BDMInfo@bls.gov).

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: 202-691-5200; TDD message referral phone number: 1-800-877-8339.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, third quarter 2004²

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
United States ⁶	8,421.8	130,248.9	1.3	-	\$733	4.0	-
Jefferson, AL	18.5	368.3	0.0	244	739	3.6	172
Madison, AL	7.9	165.3	2.6	66	773	2.7	238
Mobile, AL	9.6	161.3	-0.3	261	601	2.6	247
Montgomery, AL	6.6	131.3	1.4	134	619	2.1	276
Tuscaloosa, AL	4.2	78.8	3.0	51	614	2.7	238
Anchorage Borough, AK	7.7	145.0	0.8	175	809	4.0	138
Maricopa, AZ	79.9	1,633.3	3.7	32	731	4.7	77
Pima, AZ	17.5	339.6	2.9	56	640	4.1	133
Benton, AR	4.5	86.1	4.4	16	679	4.5	102
Pulaski, AR	13.3	242.6	0.9	166	669	4.7	77
Washington, AR	5.1	87.0	2.3	81	599	6.6	15
Alameda, CA	47.7	674.8	-0.5	270	971	3.6	172
Contra Costa, CA	27.4	339.2	0.7	189	923	5.2	53
Fresno, CA	28.6	348.8	-0.4	266	591	3.5	187
Kern, CA	15.8	257.7	0.4	217	632	5.0	60
Los Angeles, CA	360.1	4,019.6	0.7	189	833	4.9	68
Marin, CA	11.8	110.3	0.8	175	914	4.8	72
Monterey, CA	11.9	180.2	1.1	154	643	4.7	77
Orange, CA	89.7	1,468.4	3.1	47	840	3.3	199
Placer, CA	9.4	130.9	3.7	32	738	3.2	202
Riverside, CA	38.3	572.4	7.2	3	635	5.3	49
Sacramento, CA	46.5	608.8	1.4	134	817	2.4	262
San Bernardino, CA	41.9	600.7	3.3	40	655	4.1	133
San Diego, CA	86.2	1,268.0	1.4	134	800	5.4	44
San Francisco, CA	43.0	521.9	-0.6	277	1,107	3.4	194
San Joaquin, CA	15.8	221.9	0.6	199	649	3.5	187
San Luis Obispo, CA	8.6	101.7	0.4	217	631	6.9	12
San Mateo, CA	22.7	328.7	0.0	244	1,132	0.8	301
Santa Barbara, CA	13.1	180.6	0.6	199	702	3.7	163
Santa Clara, CA	52.3	850.8	0.7	189	1,308	3.1	209
Santa Cruz, CA	8.3	100.3	1.4	134	684	-1.3	308
Solano, CA	9.5	128.1	0.8	175	696	2.5	257
Sonoma, CA	17.2	193.1	1.5	121	732	2.7	238
Stanislaus, CA	13.1	174.9	0.3	225	632	3.8	157
Tulare, CA	8.5	135.9	-2.7	307	531	5.1	58
Ventura, CA	20.5	302.2	0.9	166	779	1.3	296
Yolo, CA	5.1	98.6	1.3	141	734	5.0	60
Adams, CO	8.7	143.9	0.8	175	706	2.6	247
Arapahoe, CO	19.0	269.0	-0.3	261	870	-7.3	311
Boulder, CO	11.9	153.5	2.5	73	870	0.6	304
Denver, CO	24.6	427.3	1.5	121	888	2.9	224
El Paso, CO	16.1	237.9	1.5	121	696	2.7	238
Jefferson, CO	18.2	204.4	0.7	189	765	3.2	202
Larimer, CO	9.3	124.4	2.1	87	689	3.1	209
Fairfield, CT	31.8	411.4	0.1	233	1,132	6.2	20
Hartford, CT	24.4	483.0	1.1	154	916	6.5	16
New Haven, CT	22.0	362.2	2.1	87	811	3.4	194
New London, CT	6.6	129.4	0.0	244	762	4.2	120
New Castle, DE	19.3	280.2	0.3	225	858	2.4	262
Washington, DC	30.1	658.3	1.2	147	1,207	7.6	6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, third quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Alachua, FL	6.0	123.4	1.7	111	\$566	5.4	44
Brevard, FL	12.9	194.5	(7)	-	727	(7)	-
Broward, FL	58.6	687.9	1.8	105	696	3.6	172
Collier, FL	10.7	115.8	3.6	35	649	4.7	77
Duval, FL	23.0	436.3	2.6	66	711	2.4	262
Escambia, FL	7.4	124.8	2.8	62	583	3.2	202
Hillsborough, FL	32.2	606.5	3.2	45	694	3.7	163
Lee, FL	15.7	194.3	6.1	6	637	6.0	27
Leon, FL	7.4	143.6	1.9	98	631	3.6	172
Manatee, FL	7.3	116.9	4.4	16	571	4.6	91
Marion, FL	6.8	90.3	4.7	13	541	3.6	172
Miami-Dade, FL	82.6	979.5	2.1	87	717	(7)	-
Okaloosa, FL	5.5	79.8	-2.0	304	592	6.9	12
Orange, FL	30.8	624.4	3.3	40	682	5.7	33
Palm Beach, FL	44.2	503.7	1.1	154	720	3.9	147
Pasco, FL	7.7	84.0	3.1	47	534	6.2	20
Pinellas, FL	29.0	437.1	3.9	25	638	2.2	272
Polk, FL	10.8	185.7	4.4	16	601	3.6	172
Sarasota, FL	13.4	153.9	5.1	10	618	5.3	49
Seminole, FL	12.6	153.4	4.4	16	645	2.9	224
Volusia, FL	12.3	149.2	(7)	-	558	(7)	-
Bibb, GA	4.7	85.9	0.5	205	623	4.4	111
Chatham, GA	7.0	127.1	1.5	121	631	4.5	102
Clayton, GA	4.4	106.1	(7)	-	808	5.8	29
Cobb, GA	19.8	296.8	-1.3	293	803	3.6	172
De Kalb, GA	16.9	288.7	-0.9	287	792	2.9	224
Fulton, GA	37.1	726.6	1.5	121	958	4.2	120
Gwinnett, GA	21.4	307.9	3.1	47	773	1.2	297
Muscogee, GA	4.7	95.9	-1.7	300	589	3.9	147
Richmond, GA	4.8	102.8	-2.2	305	627	4.7	77
Honolulu, HI	23.2	426.7	2.7	64	703	4.6	91
Ada, ID	13.2	190.6	3.9	25	675	4.5	102
Champaign, IL	3.9	90.6	0.6	199	639	2.2	272
Cook, IL	126.7	2,511.7	-0.3	261	871	4.3	116
Du Page, IL	32.6	577.1	0.8	175	851	2.4	262
Kane, IL	11.1	201.6	0.4	217	686	2.7	238
Lake, IL	19.0	326.9	1.2	147	874	4.5	102
McHenry, IL	7.5	96.8	2.5	73	666	2.6	247
McLean, IL	3.4	83.9	-1.9	301	702	1.4	292
Madison, IL	5.6	93.5	-1.0	290	614	4.8	72
Peoria, IL	4.6	98.4	2.3	81	692	4.8	72
Rock Island, IL	3.4	78.3	-0.7	282	715	2.1	276
St. Clair, IL	5.1	92.9	-0.1	255	606	5.0	60
Sangamon, IL	5.1	130.3	(7)	-	736	(7)	-
Will, IL	10.8	163.9	2.9	56	698	2.2	272
Winnebago, IL	6.6	137.6	0.7	189	632	0.6	304
Allen, IN	8.7	180.5	1.2	147	658	2.7	238
Elkhart, IN	4.8	126.3	6.8	4	658	5.6	34
Hamilton, IN	6.2	90.6	4.9	11	755	4.1	133
Lake, IN	9.9	193.9	0.0	244	670	4.2	120

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, third quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Marion, IN	23.7	581.1	1.5	121	\$765	3.8	157
St. Joseph, IN	6.0	125.0	1.6	118	677	10.4	1
Vanderburgh, IN	4.8	107.4	-1.3	293	628	5.4	44
Linn, IA	6.1	116.0	0.9	166	706	3.4	194
Polk, IA	14.2	261.5	1.8	105	740	4.7	77
Scott, IA	5.1	86.4	1.9	98	604	2.5	257
Johnson, KS	18.9	296.6	1.9	98	764	3.8	157
Sedgwick, KS	11.6	241.3	1.2	147	689	6.5	16
Shawnee, KS	4.7	94.6	-1.5	298	624	4.2	120
Fayette, KY	8.8	166.5	0.8	175	681	3.7	163
Jefferson, KY	21.6	417.1	0.0	244	726	5.5	39
Caddo, LA	7.0	122.0	1.8	105	612	5.5	39
Calcasieu, LA	4.6	80.8	-0.4	266	598	0.7	302
East Baton Rouge, LA	13.1	244.9	0.8	175	618	2.0	281
Jefferson, LA	14.0	210.5	-0.4	266	613	4.3	116
Lafayette, LA	7.6	118.4	-0.5	270	635	1.6	287
Orleans, LA	12.6	244.6	-1.6	299	677	1.5	290
Cumberland, ME	12.0	171.0	1.1	154	671	5.5	39
Anne Arundel, MD	13.6	215.7	2.4	77	773	3.9	147
Baltimore, MD	20.7	366.0	1.8	105	751	2.3	270
Frederick, MD	5.5	90.2	2.8	62	701	4.9	68
Howard, MD	8.0	138.6	0.1	233	846	5.0	60
Montgomery, MD	31.5	450.6	0.5	205	953	6.2	20
Prince Georges, MD	15.2	314.9	1.6	118	820	5.8	29
Baltimore City, MD	14.1	355.4	-1.9	301	825	1.2	297
Barnstable, MA	9.3	99.4	-0.2	258	635	4.6	91
Bristol, MA	15.4	218.9	-0.5	270	672	6.2	20
Essex, MA	20.8	294.1	-0.9	287	800	3.1	209
Hampden, MA	14.2	198.6	-1.1	291	704	6.0	27
Middlesex, MA	48.2	782.0	-0.5	270	1,043	4.6	91
Norfolk, MA	21.9	316.2	-0.8	285	885	1.6	287
Plymouth, MA	13.7	175.0	1.3	141	719	4.8	72
Suffolk, MA	22.4	557.5	-0.5	270	1,178	9.1	2
Worcester, MA	20.5	318.3	0.1	233	783	6.1	24
Genesee, MI	8.6	155.3	0.4	217	715	2.6	247
Ingham, MI	7.0	164.9	-2.6	306	723	3.0	217
Kalamazoo, MI	5.5	116.1	-0.2	258	688	-7.7	312
Kent, MI	14.6	336.4	1.3	141	703	2.6	247
Macomb, MI	18.1	325.4	0.5	205	818	4.2	120
Oakland, MI	41.4	717.1	-0.8	285	893	2.9	224
Ottawa, MI	5.8	115.1	3.0	51	672	3.9	147
Saginaw, MI	4.6	89.9	-1.4	297	691	2.4	262
Washtenaw, MI	8.2	195.2	0.4	217	847	1.8	282
Wayne, MI	35.0	791.2	-1.2	292	874	4.7	77
Anoka, MN	7.5	113.1	1.0	161	734	4.9	68
Dakota, MN	9.7	169.2	2.0	93	740	2.9	224
Hennepin, MN	40.5	827.3	0.8	175	933	2.6	247
Olmsted, MN	3.3	87.3	0.7	189	819	3.5	187
Ramsey, MN	14.9	329.6	0.3	225	819	2.9	224
St. Louis, MN	5.7	94.8	1.4	134	634	2.4	262

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, third quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Stearns, MN	4.2	77.7	1.2	147	\$611	6.1	24
Harrison, MS	4.6	90.0	-0.5	270	520	-0.2	306
Hinds, MS	6.6	130.2	0.1	233	651	4.0	138
Boone, MO	4.3	78.2	2.6	66	585	2.8	235
Clay, MO	4.9	86.9	0.5	205	698	4.5	102
Greene, MO	8.0	146.2	0.8	175	591	4.2	120
Jackson, MO	18.7	363.3	-0.3	261	757	4.6	91
St. Charles, MO	7.3	114.9	(7)	-	644	3.9	147
St. Louis, MO	33.7	617.5	-0.1	255	778	1.4	292
St. Louis City, MO	8.2	224.8	(7)	-	811	4.0	138
Douglas, NE	14.9	309.4	0.5	205	702	3.4	194
Lancaster, NE	7.5	153.6	2.5	73	621	4.0	138
Clark, NV	39.0	822.6	7.4	2	701	4.6	91
Washoe, NV	12.7	209.0	4.7	13	713	2.7	238
Hillsborough, NH	12.4	194.2	0.8	175	828	6.3	19
Rockingham, NH	10.7	136.7	2.9	56	738	8.1	4
Atlantic, NJ	6.6	147.3	-0.3	261	666	2.9	224
Bergen, NJ	34.3	447.7	0.2	229	910	2.9	224
Burlington, NJ	11.1	198.8	1.0	161	789	3.5	187
Camden, NJ	13.4	210.8	3.8	29	741	2.2	272
Essex, NJ	21.4	357.4	0.1	233	947	4.3	116
Gloucester, NJ	6.1	100.4	3.9	25	679	5.4	44
Hudson, NJ	13.9	234.4	0.4	217	980	5.6	34
Mercer, NJ	10.7	217.4	-0.9	287	934	1.5	290
Middlesex, NJ	20.7	392.0	0.8	175	938	4.0	138
Monmouth, NJ	19.9	254.9	2.7	64	786	3.7	163
Morris, NJ	17.7	281.3	0.4	217	1,034	2.3	270
Ocean, NJ	11.5	148.9	3.0	51	623	3.1	209
Passaic, NJ	12.5	178.1	2.0	93	786	4.2	120
Somerset, NJ	9.9	166.1	(7)	-	1,093	-6.9	310
Union, NJ	14.9	232.1	(7)	-	912	(7)	-
Bernalillo, NM	16.5	315.6	1.5	121	665	2.6	247
Albany, NY	9.6	227.9	0.0	244	787	4.7	77
Bronx, NY	15.4	216.4	1.2	147	746	5.8	29
Broome, NY	4.5	94.3	-0.4	266	602	4.2	120
Dutchess, NY	7.9	116.5	1.5	121	744	1.6	287
Erie, NY	23.3	457.9	0.7	189	663	5.2	53
Kings, NY	42.0	446.5	1.7	111	665	3.6	172
Monroe, NY	17.7	379.9	-0.7	282	752	5.0	60
Nassau, NY	50.7	597.4	0.6	199	808	3.5	187
New York, NY	112.7	2,201.7	0.8	175	1,327	7.0	11
Oneida, NY	5.3	108.3	0.6	199	581	3.2	202
Onondaga, NY	12.6	249.0	0.9	166	687	2.8	235
Orange, NY	9.3	127.4	1.4	134	632	4.5	102
Queens, NY	40.3	478.1	0.9	166	751	1.8	282
Richmond, NY	8.1	88.3	1.5	121	693	4.2	120
Rockland, NY	9.4	110.5	0.1	233	772	3.6	172
Suffolk, NY	47.7	602.1	1.1	154	797	4.2	120
Westchester, NY	35.3	410.4	1.7	111	963	(7)	-
Buncombe, NC	6.9	106.6	0.9	166	588	4.6	91

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, third quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Catawba, NC	4.2	86.7	1.3	141	\$588	7.3	7
Cumberland, NC	5.6	112.0	2.9	56	584	5.4	44
Durham, NC	6.1	166.3	0.9	166	955	3.6	172
Forsyth, NC	8.4	176.3	0.5	205	761	7.3	7
Guilford, NC	13.6	266.5	1.5	121	674	2.7	238
Mecklenburg, NC	27.2	507.2	0.5	205	838	1.8	282
New Hanover, NC	6.4	92.9	4.0	23	598	4.7	77
Wake, NC	23.3	392.6	3.3	40	734	3.2	202
Cass, ND	5.4	90.0	3.7	32	610	3.9	147
Butler, OH	6.9	134.5	2.1	87	663	3.8	157
Cuyahoga, OH	38.2	759.8	0.0	244	776	4.9	68
Franklin, OH	29.1	685.4	0.1	233	741	3.8	157
Hamilton, OH	24.6	543.8	0.2	229	808	5.8	29
Lake, OH	6.7	98.8	0.0	244	630	3.6	172
Lorain, OH	6.2	102.3	0.5	205	646	5.0	60
Lucas, OH	10.8	226.7	0.1	233	669	1.4	292
Mahoning, OH	6.4	106.9	1.0	161	570	3.1	209
Montgomery, OH	13.2	285.7	-0.5	270	707	4.0	138
Stark, OH	9.1	166.8	0.0	244	596	3.7	163
Summit, OH	14.7	268.5	1.2	147	694	2.1	276
Trumbull, OH	4.8	83.5	-3.7	308	685	6.4	18
Oklahoma, OK	21.7	408.3	1.9	98	645	3.2	202
Tulsa, OK	18.2	320.0	1.0	161	667	5.0	60
Clackamas, OR	11.5	138.7	2.1	87	688	3.6	172
Jackson, OR	6.2	81.4	3.3	40	571	3.6	172
Lane, OR	10.4	142.2	3.3	40	598	3.1	209
Marion, OR	8.5	135.7	2.6	66	580	1.4	292
Multnomah, OR	25.5	422.4	1.6	118	760	3.7	163
Washington, OR	14.6	227.7	3.2	45	877	5.5	39
Allegheny, PA	35.6	687.2	-0.6	277	774	3.6	172
Berks, PA	9.0	163.1	1.7	111	668	3.6	172
Bucks, PA	19.9	257.3	2.6	66	709	4.1	133
Chester, PA	14.5	224.3	2.0	93	902	4.6	91
Cumberland, PA	5.7	126.5	1.9	98	704	2.9	224
Dauphin, PA	7.0	176.0	1.5	121	736	4.8	72
Delaware, PA	13.5	207.7	-0.2	258	778	3.9	147
Erie, PA	7.2	127.9	1.8	105	586	3.0	217
Lackawanna, PA	5.8	98.7	1.1	154	586	4.6	91
Lancaster, PA	11.7	226.4	1.7	111	656	4.6	91
Lehigh, PA	8.4	174.2	0.4	217	726	3.7	163
Luzerne, PA	8.0	141.8	-0.6	277	599	4.0	138
Montgomery, PA	27.6	480.6	0.3	225	909	4.7	77
Northampton, PA	6.1	91.5	0.5	205	664	4.7	77
Philadelphia, PA	28.5	627.6	-1.3	293	869	5.3	49
Westmoreland, PA	9.4	136.8	3.5	37	605	4.5	102
York, PA	8.5	169.0	2.6	66	666	3.9	147
Kent, RI	5.6	81.7	0.5	205	676	2.4	262
Providence, RI	17.8	288.5	0.0	244	731	5.2	53
Charleston, SC	11.8	194.1	3.4	38	621	3.7	163
Greenville, SC	12.1	221.1	0.5	205	663	3.3	199

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, third quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Horry, SC	8.0	108.4	4.6	15	\$487	3.0	217
Lexington, SC	5.5	86.3	1.8	105	589	7.3	7
Richland, SC	9.4	208.0	2.0	93	645	4.4	111
Spartanburg, SC	6.2	115.0	-0.6	277	654	4.1	133
Minnehaha, SD	6.0	109.4	1.7	111	624	5.6	34
Davidson, TN	17.9	432.2	0.9	166	733	3.1	209
Hamilton, TN	8.3	191.1	1.7	111	645	3.0	217
Knox, TN	10.3	219.1	3.4	38	632	2.8	235
Rutherford, TN	3.7	91.6	9.2	1	647	0.9	300
Shelby, TN	19.8	495.9	0.1	233	787	6.8	14
Bell, TX	4.2	91.5	3.6	35	573	4.0	138
Bexar, TX	29.8	661.0	0.7	189	644	4.2	120
Brazoria, TX	4.1	76.1	0.0	244	693	3.0	217
Brazos, TX	3.5	78.9	1.5	121	535	2.7	238
Cameron, TX	6.1	115.6	0.7	189	468	4.7	77
Collin, TX	12.8	211.8	(7)	-	797	1.0	299
Dallas, TX	68.2	1,438.0	0.8	175	889	3.0	217
Denton, TX	8.5	133.2	2.6	66	639	2.9	224
El Paso, TX	12.5	254.5	0.5	205	531	4.5	102
Fort Bend, TX	6.4	102.3	4.4	16	729	2.1	276
Galveston, TX	4.8	86.6	-1.9	301	641	3.9	147
Harris, TX	90.2	1,838.1	0.8	175	862	4.5	102
Hidalgo, TX	9.3	185.3	3.9	25	475	4.2	120
Jefferson, TX	5.8	117.2	-0.1	255	661	2.6	247
Lubbock, TX	6.5	118.5	2.9	56	554	0.7	302
McLennan, TX	4.7	99.4	2.3	81	583	1.7	286
Montgomery, TX	6.4	92.8	6.6	5	654	3.0	217
Nueces, TX	8.0	143.3	0.7	189	612	5.2	53
Potter, TX	3.9	76.5	0.1	233	585	5.6	34
Smith, TX	4.9	86.8	1.9	98	648	6.1	24
Tarrant, TX	34.0	701.0	1.3	141	758	5.0	60
Travis, TX	25.2	516.3	2.4	77	824	2.4	262
Webb, TX	4.3	78.0	2.3	81	496	4.4	111
Williamson, TX	5.1	87.0	4.1	22	746	-0.4	307
Davis, UT	6.4	94.2	4.0	23	614	3.2	202
Salt Lake, UT	35.0	524.7	2.3	81	671	3.5	187
Utah, UT	11.2	152.2	5.3	8	565	2.5	257
Weber, UT	5.4	86.8	1.3	141	556	1.8	282
Chittenden, VT	5.7	96.4	2.1	87	725	5.1	58
Arlington, VA	7.0	155.6	(7)	-	1,196	7.7	5
Chesterfield, VA	6.7	112.4	2.9	56	670	4.2	120
Fairfax, VA	29.8	548.5	4.8	12	1,068	2.5	257
Henrico, VA	8.3	166.8	1.4	134	779	7.3	7
Loudoun, VA	6.3	115.2	5.3	8	970	8.4	3
Prince William, VA	6.0	95.9	5.8	7	664	3.8	157
Alexandria City, VA	5.7	92.9	0.9	166	948	4.6	91
Chesapeake City, VA	4.8	93.6	4.2	21	582	3.7	163
Newport News City, VA	3.7	97.3	2.5	73	673	4.7	77
Norfolk City, VA	5.6	144.5	0.1	233	722	3.4	194
Richmond City, VA	6.9	157.4	0.2	229	824	3.5	187

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the 318 largest counties, third quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁵		
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ⁴	Ranking by percent change
Virginia Beach City, VA	10.6	174.0	3.8	29	\$567	3.1	209
Clark, WA	10.4	122.1	3.8	29	685	3.3	199
King, WA	77.3	1,104.3	1.1	154	940	-2.4	309
Kitsap, WA	6.1	80.2	3.0	51	695	2.1	276
Pierce, WA	19.6	252.0	1.5	121	673	5.2	53
Snohomish, WA	16.1	212.0	3.0	51	763	2.6	247
Spokane, WA	14.6	193.5	1.0	161	604	2.5	257
Thurston, WA	6.2	91.5	2.4	77	681	2.9	224
Yakima, WA	8.3	104.5	0.6	199	500	4.4	111
Kanawha, WV	6.2	107.7	-0.7	282	627	4.3	116
Brown, WI	6.8	146.6	0.2	229	657	4.0	138
Dane, WI	13.9	292.4	2.3	81	715	4.4	111
Milwaukee, WI	22.2	492.8	-1.3	293	750	5.6	34
Outagamie, WI	5.0	100.7	3.1	47	653	5.5	39
Racine, WI	4.3	76.8	2.0	93	694	3.9	147
Waukesha, WI	13.5	228.9	1.9	98	759	5.3	49
Winnebago, WI	4.0	87.6	-0.6	277	707	4.7	77
San Juan, PR	13.4	324.3	2.4	77	475	2.6	247

¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. These 317 U.S. counties comprise 70.2 percent of the total covered workers in the U.S.

² Data are preliminary.

³ Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.

⁴ Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

⁵ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

⁶ Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

⁷ Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, third quarter 2004²

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ³
United States ⁵	8,421.8	130,248.9	1.3	\$733	4.0
Private industry	8,149.4	109,436.9	1.4	724	4.0
Natural resources and mining	122.7	1,777.2	0.5	654	7.7
Construction	823.7	7,167.2	3.3	769	3.4
Manufacturing	370.7	14,332.0	-0.4	898	5.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	1,859.1	25,216.7	0.7	648	3.8
Information	143.4	3,062.0	-2.4	1,120	1.8
Financial activities	785.8	7,899.5	0.5	1,039	4.0
Professional and business services	1,341.4	16,486.7	3.0	859	4.4
Education and health services	747.7	16,097.5	2.0	704	4.5
Leisure and hospitality	680.4	12,747.5	2.4	314	3.0
Other services	1,082.4	4,281.7	0.2	477	3.2
Government	272.3	20,812.0	0.6	781	4.1
Los Angeles, CA	360.1	4,019.6	0.7	833	4.9
Private industry	356.3	3,472.9	1.2	814	5.3
Natural resources and mining	0.6	12.0	0.9	1,031	29.0
Construction	13.1	144.4	8.0	827	4.3
Manufacturing	17.1	478.5	-2.3	874	8.0
Trade, transportation, and utilities	53.5	776.6	1.5	706	3.7
Information	8.8	205.2	1.9	1,370	6.1
Financial activities	23.0	235.6	0.7	1,269	7.8
Professional and business services	39.9	566.2	1.3	919	4.4
Education and health services	26.9	453.9	0.7	759	4.4
Leisure and hospitality	25.5	373.0	1.8	505	5.9
Other services	147.8	226.5	3.1	404	2.3
Government	3.9	546.8	-1.9	956	3.6
Cook, IL	126.7	2,511.7	-0.3	871	4.3
Private industry	125.4	2,195.1	-0.1	862	4.2
Natural resources and mining	0.1	1.4	(⁶)	1,137	(⁶)
Construction	10.6	98.8	-4.0	1,073	3.6
Manufacturing	7.6	257.7	-1.6	908	7.1
Trade, transportation, and utilities	26.5	477.0	0.2	732	5.5
Information	2.5	61.4	-5.5	1,206	2.5
Financial activities	14.0	215.8	-1.1	1,318	4.9
Professional and business services	25.9	409.4	1.4	1,052	3.4
Education and health services	12.5	348.0	0.4	761	3.8
Leisure and hospitality	10.6	226.5	1.7	378	4.4
Other services	12.6	94.1	-1.2	633	3.1
Government	1.2	316.5	-1.5	932	4.7
New York, NY	112.7	2,201.7	0.8	1,327	7.0
Private industry	112.4	1,764.4	1.0	1,404	7.4
Natural resources and mining	0.0	0.1	-15.6	1,124	15.2
Construction	2.1	29.3	-3.5	1,312	0.8
Manufacturing	3.3	45.6	-1.6	1,016	6.5
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21.8	233.1	1.4	996	3.2
Information	4.2	130.2	-0.9	1,723	8.0
Financial activities	16.9	347.9	0.0	2,406	14.2
Professional and business services	22.6	430.2	0.8	1,517	5.5
Education and health services	8.0	267.1	1.1	923	3.0
Leisure and hospitality	10.3	188.3	4.1	642	3.5
Other services	16.0	81.1	0.6	776	2.8
Government	0.2	437.3	-0.1	1,023	4.9

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, third quarter 2004² — Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ³
Harris, TX	90.2	1,838.1	0.8	\$862	4.5
Private industry	89.8	1,594.9	0.7	871	5.1
Natural resources and mining	1.3	63.1	1.5	2,018	11.1
Construction	6.3	129.7	-8.1	842	6.4
Manufacturing	4.6	163.9	-0.1	1,080	6.6
Trade, transportation, and utilities	21.2	388.5	0.2	782	2.6
Information	1.4	33.4	-1.7	1,064	3.7
Financial activities	9.7	114.6	2.2	1,046	0.7
Professional and business services	17.1	289.7	3.7	988	8.0
Education and health services	9.1	188.8	0.7	781	3.6
Leisure and hospitality	6.8	161.5	2.8	323	1.6
Other services	10.4	57.1	1.2	513	2.6
Government	0.4	243.2	1.5	796	0.1
Maricopa, AZ	79.9	1,633.3	3.7	731	4.7
Private industry	79.4	1,414.4	3.9	726	4.3
Natural resources and mining	0.5	7.6	0.4	564	12.8
Construction	8.3	143.2	9.4	717	3.8
Manufacturing	3.2	128.4	0.8	1,039	6.3
Trade, transportation, and utilities	18.3	328.5	3.9	713	3.9
Information	1.5	33.6	-7.8	857	5.2
Financial activities	9.6	135.7	1.9	900	2.0
Professional and business services	17.7	270.4	6.2	719	6.0
Education and health services	7.8	167.1	5.8	776	4.7
Leisure and hospitality	5.7	152.8	2.2	353	3.2
Other services	5.6	44.7	1.7	499	4.0
Government	0.5	218.8	2.3	766	7.0
Dallas, TX	68.2	1,438.0	0.8	889	3.0
Private industry	67.7	1,281.0	0.9	894	3.1
Natural resources and mining	0.5	6.5	5.2	2,143	-10.3
Construction	4.4	76.5	0.6	798	3.4
Manufacturing	3.4	144.2	1.0	1,013	5.7
Trade, transportation, and utilities	15.7	310.0	0.0	879	4.8
Information	1.8	59.2	-5.9	1,222	2.5
Financial activities	8.7	140.1	1.0	1,115	1.4
Professional and business services	13.8	244.6	3.0	962	1.7
Education and health services	6.2	130.8	1.0	862	5.3
Leisure and hospitality	5.1	126.0	1.6	401	0.3
Other services	6.6	39.7	-3.4	570	2.7
Government	0.5	157.0	(⁶)	840	(⁶)
Orange, CA	89.7	1,468.4	3.1	840	3.3
Private industry	88.3	1,328.4	3.2	835	3.3
Natural resources and mining	0.2	7.4	7.3	515	1.6
Construction	6.6	96.3	9.3	882	2.8
Manufacturing	5.9	183.8	0.9	987	5.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	17.2	266.5	2.0	785	2.3
Information	1.4	32.6	-3.4	1,205	10.1
Financial activities	10.0	136.8	6.1	1,361	0.8
Professional and business services	17.5	264.1	3.9	834	2.1
Education and health services	9.2	127.9	1.7	785	6.9
Leisure and hospitality	6.7	165.6	3.2	368	4.0
Other services	13.4	46.9	3.7	510	2.4
Government	1.4	140.0	1.8	886	3.4

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the ten largest counties, third quarter 2004² — Continued

County by NAICS supersector	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁴	
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ³	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ³
San Diego, CA	86.2	1,268.0	1.4	\$800	5.4
Private industry	84.8	1,058.6	1.6	780	5.5
Natural resources and mining	0.9	11.6	-1.4	498	6.2
Construction	6.7	90.0	9.9	822	5.4
Manufacturing	3.5	104.8	-0.2	1,070	9.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.2	211.7	2.4	654	3.3
Information	1.3	36.7	-1.3	1,682	11.6
Financial activities	9.1	81.2	1.4	1,012	0.5
Professional and business services	14.9	203.6	0.9	910	4.7
Education and health services	7.6	118.2	-1.0	734	6.5
Leisure and hospitality	6.6	147.7	1.6	378	8.3
Other services	20.0	52.8	1.4	440	3.0
Government	1.4	209.4	0.1	907	5.3
King, WA	77.3	1,104.3	1.1	940	-2.4
Private industry	76.7	950.8	1.1	946	-3.3
Natural resources and mining	0.4	3.3	-4.5	966	3.1
Construction	6.2	57.9	1.6	882	1.7
Manufacturing	2.6	102.2	-1.6	1,205	8.4
Trade, transportation, and utilities	14.8	218.7	1.5	817	4.3
Information	1.5	67.8	-1.5	2,135	-28.3
Financial activities	6.2	76.0	-1.6	1,106	0.5
Professional and business services	12.0	163.1	4.1	1,039	4.0
Education and health services	6.0	110.6	3.2	729	4.6
Leisure and hospitality	5.5	105.1	2.3	401	0.5
Other services	21.5	46.1	-4.7	483	8.3
Government	0.5	153.5	1.1	903	4.0
Miami-Dade, FL	82.6	979.5	2.1	717	(⁶)
Private industry	82.3	829.7	2.6	694	3.4
Natural resources and mining	0.5	8.0	6.7	437	0.9
Construction	5.2	42.2	3.3	761	9.2
Manufacturing	2.8	50.4	0.6	646	5.2
Trade, transportation, and utilities	24.0	240.4	0.5	664	3.9
Information	1.8	26.6	-3.1	1,021	9.8
Financial activities	8.9	67.5	2.6	965	-0.4
Professional and business services	16.4	136.5	6.4	804	2.8
Education and health services	8.2	125.2	2.0	730	2.5
Leisure and hospitality	5.6	94.6	5.7	403	3.6
Other services	7.7	35.1	1.4	434	1.6
Government	0.3	149.8	-0.6	849	(⁶)

¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

² Data are preliminary.

³ Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

⁴ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

⁵ Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

⁶ Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, third quarter 2004²

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁵	
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ⁴	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ⁴
United States ⁶	8,421.8	130,248.9	1.3	\$733	4.0
Jefferson, AL	18.5	368.3	0.0	739	3.6
Anchorage Borough, AK	7.7	145.0	0.8	809	4.0
Maricopa, AZ	79.9	1,633.3	3.7	731	4.7
Pulaski, AR	13.3	242.6	0.9	669	4.7
Los Angeles, CA	360.1	4,019.6	0.7	833	4.9
Denver, CO	24.6	427.3	1.5	888	2.9
Hartford, CT	24.4	483.0	1.1	916	6.5
New Castle, DE	19.3	280.2	0.3	858	2.4
Washington, DC	30.1	658.3	1.2	1,207	7.6
Miami-Dade, FL	82.6	979.5	2.1	717	(7)
Fulton, GA	37.1	726.6	1.5	958	4.2
Honolulu, HI	23.2	426.7	2.7	703	4.6
Ada, ID	13.2	190.6	3.9	675	4.5
Cook, IL	126.7	2,511.7	-0.3	871	4.3
Marion, IN	23.7	581.1	1.5	765	3.8
Polk, IA	14.2	261.5	1.8	740	4.7
Johnson, KS	18.9	296.6	1.9	764	3.8
Jefferson, KY	21.6	417.1	0.0	726	5.5
Orleans, LA	12.6	244.6	-1.6	677	1.5
Cumberland, ME	12.0	171.0	1.1	671	5.5
Montgomery, MD	31.5	450.6	0.5	953	6.2
Middlesex, MA	48.2	782.0	-0.5	1,043	4.6
Wayne, MI	35.0	791.2	-1.2	874	4.7
Hennepin, MN	40.5	827.3	0.8	933	2.6
Hinds, MS	6.6	130.2	0.1	651	4.0
St. Louis, MO	33.7	617.5	-0.1	778	1.4
Yellowstone, MT	5.6	71.2	2.4	572	3.8
Douglas, NE	14.9	309.4	0.5	702	3.4
Clark, NV	39.0	822.6	7.4	701	4.6
Hillsborough, NH	12.4	194.2	0.8	828	6.3
Bergen, NJ	34.3	447.7	0.2	910	2.9
Bernalillo, NM	16.5	315.6	1.5	665	2.6
New York, NY	112.7	2,201.7	0.8	1,327	7.0
Mecklenburg, NC	27.2	507.2	0.5	838	1.8
Cass, ND	5.4	90.0	3.7	610	3.9
Cuyahoga, OH	38.2	759.8	0.0	776	4.9
Oklahoma, OK	21.7	408.3	1.9	645	3.2
Multnomah, OR	25.5	422.4	1.6	760	3.7
Allegheny, PA	35.6	687.2	-0.6	774	3.6
Providence, RI	17.8	288.5	0.0	731	5.2
Greenville, SC	12.1	221.1	0.5	663	3.3
Minnehaha, SD	6.0	109.4	1.7	624	5.6
Shelby, TN	19.8	495.9	0.1	787	6.8
Harris, TX	90.2	1,838.1	0.8	862	4.5
Salt Lake, UT	35.0	524.7	2.3	671	3.5
Chittenden, VT	5.7	96.4	2.1	725	5.1
Fairfax, VA	29.8	548.5	4.8	1,068	2.5
King, WA	77.3	1,104.3	1.1	940	-2.4
Kanawha, WV	6.2	107.7	-0.7	627	4.3
Milwaukee, WI	22.2	492.8	-1.3	750	5.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 3. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages in the largest county by state, third quarter 2004² — Continued

County ³	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁵	
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04 ⁴	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04 ⁴
Laramie, WY	2.9	39.8	0.7	\$596	4.0
San Juan, PR	13.4	324.3	2.4	475	2.6
St. Thomas, VI	1.7	22.6	-0.5	565	3.9

¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

² Data are preliminary.

³ Includes areas not officially designated as counties. See Technical Note.

⁴ Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications. See Technical Note.

⁵ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

⁶ Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

⁷ Data do not meet BLS or State agency disclosure standards.

Table 4. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, third quarter 2004²

State	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04
United States ⁴	8,421.8	130,248.9	1.3	\$733	4.0
Alabama	114.4	1,858.0	1.8	629	3.6
Alaska	20.3	314.2	1.9	755	3.4
Arizona	126.3	2,357.6	3.6	691	4.9
Arkansas	76.4	1,145.7	1.4	570	5.2
California	1,204.0	15,106.6	1.5	829	3.9
Colorado	164.8	2,163.4	1.8	752	1.1
Connecticut	109.5	1,642.1	0.9	917	5.4
Delaware	29.1	414.9	2.0	769	2.1
District of Columbia	30.1	658.3	1.2	1,207	7.6
Florida	529.1	7,397.2	2.5	655	4.5
Georgia	249.2	3,837.8	0.8	711	3.8
Hawaii	35.7	585.6	2.9	676	4.5
Idaho	49.6	608.1	3.0	569	4.0
Illinois	328.1	5,747.7	0.2	779	3.9
Indiana	152.6	2,887.8	1.4	655	4.5
Iowa	91.8	1,431.8	1.2	604	4.1
Kansas	82.4	1,304.8	1.2	620	4.6
Kentucky	106.6	1,742.9	0.8	619	4.4
Louisiana	116.7	1,861.1	0.1	595	2.8
Maine	50.1	608.8	0.7	603	4.3
Maryland	155.0	2,479.5	1.2	795	4.2
Massachusetts	211.3	3,156.5	-0.4	907	5.5
Michigan	254.3	4,344.5	-0.3	757	3.4
Minnesota	158.1	2,629.9	1.0	753	3.2
Mississippi	66.7	1,113.8	1.0	540	3.6
Missouri	167.8	2,656.2	0.9	655	3.0
Montana	42.4	413.0	2.6	525	3.6
Nebraska	55.6	887.4	1.1	601	3.6
Nevada	63.5	1,168.5	6.5	703	4.1
New Hampshire	47.6	622.6	1.4	731	6.1
New Jersey	267.8	3,918.8	0.9	876	2.8
New Mexico	50.3	769.3	1.9	588	4.1
New York	556.3	8,307.9	0.9	891	5.3
North Carolina	229.9	3,814.9	1.9	654	4.1
North Dakota	24.3	327.2	2.0	548	4.0
Ohio	288.3	5,333.0	0.4	685	4.1
Oklahoma	92.6	1,435.7	1.3	581	3.9
Oregon	120.5	1,627.6	2.5	676	3.7
Pennsylvania	330.9	5,531.4	0.7	722	4.3
Rhode Island	35.2	484.6	0.6	708	4.6
South Carolina	112.9	1,799.2	1.4	604	4.1
South Dakota	28.6	375.5	2.0	538	4.9
Tennessee	130.2	2,668.6	1.9	659	4.4
Texas	511.6	9,357.6	1.4	719	3.6
Utah	77.5	1,084.4	3.4	607	3.2
Vermont	24.5	302.0	1.5	634	5.8
Virginia	206.5	3,522.7	2.7	757	4.6
Washington	213.0	2,749.9	1.7	756	0.4
West Virginia	47.8	693.1	1.4	559	5.1
Wisconsin	161.2	2,745.6	1.1	653	4.8

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 4. Covered¹ establishments, employment, and wages by state, third quarter 2004² — Continued

State	Establishments, third quarter 2004 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ³	
		September 2004 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2003-04	Average weekly wage	Percent change, third quarter 2003-04
Wyoming	22.6	253.6	1.5	\$590	5.0
Puerto Rico	52.7	1,042.4	2.2	417	3.0
Virgin Islands	3.2	42.7	3.4	599	5.8

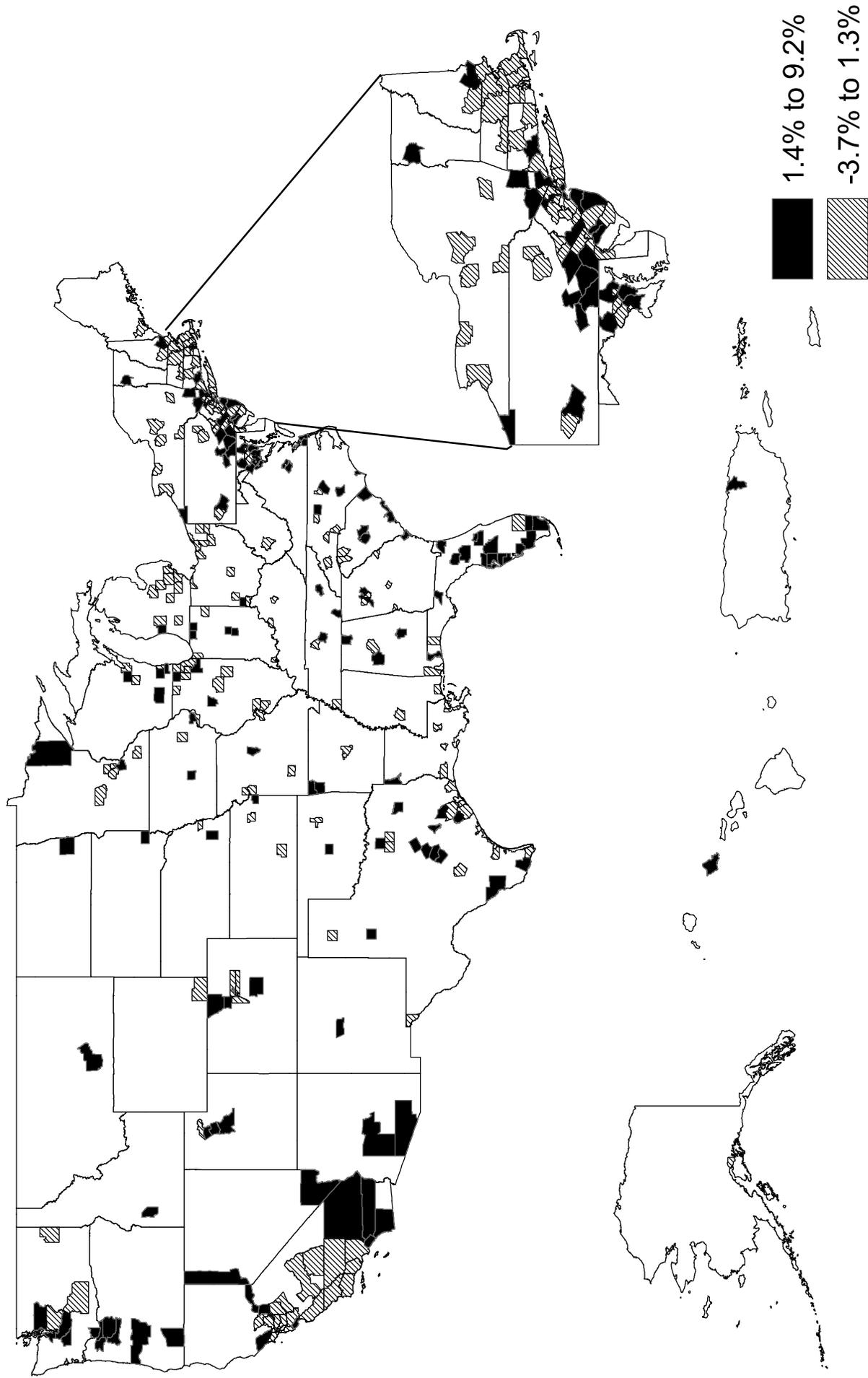
¹ Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

² Data are preliminary.

³ Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

⁴ Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

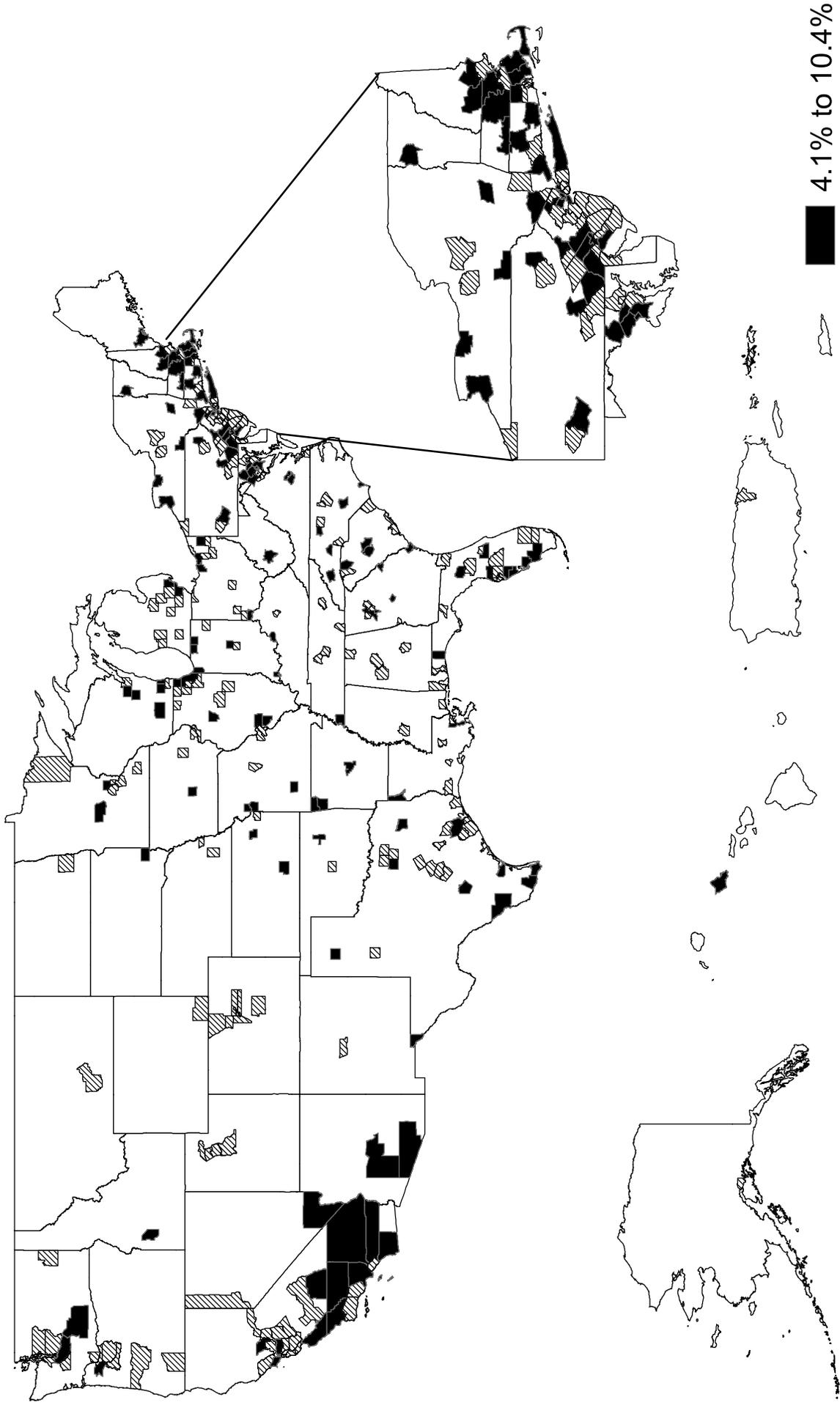
Chart 1. Percent change in employment in counties with 75,000 employees or more, September 2003–04 (U.S. Average = 1.3%)



Note: The following counties have fewer than 75,000 employees but are included because they are the largest county in their state or territory: Laramie, Wyo., Yellowstone, Mont., and St. Thomas, V.I.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
April 2005

Chart 2. Percent change in average weekly wage in counties with 75,000 employees or more, third quarter 2003–04 (U.S. Average = 4.0%)



Note: The following counties have fewer than 75,000 employees but are included because they are the largest county in their state or territory: Laramie, Wyo., Yellowstone, Mont., and St. Thomas, V.I.

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
April 2005